

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Continuation of Serial No. 09/086,788

Applicants

Takumi OKAUE, et al.

Filed

Herewith

For

EXTERNAL STORAGE APPARATUS AND CONTROL

APPARATUS THEREOF, AND DATA

TRANSMISSION/RECEPTION APPARATUS

Art Unit

2876

745 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10151

Tel. (212) 588-0800

EXPRESS MAIL

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents **Box Patent Application** Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Official Action, please amend the above-

identified application as follows: